



August 31, 2017

Dear Resident,

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a brief update on the City of Raleigh's Simmons Branch Drainage Improvement Project – Phase 2, a stormwater project that is being completed to reduce flooding in your neighborhood. City staff and their design consultant, Dewberry Engineering, Inc., are in the process of finalizing a revised design for this project that includes reconstructing White Oak Lake to increase its storage capacity, increasing the culvert sizes at Pineview Drive, rehabilitating the main box culvert on Swift Drive, adding a new a 66-inch diameter drainage pipe along Swift Drive and increasing the bridge size at the private driveway shared at 3605/3609 Swift Drive. The current design plan also includes an upgrade option to construct a new and larger box culvert north of Swift Drive to replace the existing culvert. If construction bids are under budget, the City will move forward with the culvert replacement option. Please note, rehabilitating the box culvert is an effective solution and one that we have full confidence in completing if the replacement option is not attainable.

The current design (rehabilitation or replacement) reduces construction time by several months, lessens the blasting needed to remove rock in the project area, and lowers the frequency of flooding to homes upstream of Pineview Drive and next to the private driveway shared at 3605/3609 Swift Drive. Although parking and traffic will have its challenges during construction, it will be significantly more manageable when compared to the previous designs.

Over the last several months Dewberry has made significant progress with the project design and necessary permitting. All water quality permits have been received. The design plans are about 95 percent complete and are being reviewed by the City's Development Services Department. City staff also has coordinated with several private utilities to address minor utility work that will be contained to the northern side of Swift Drive. Construction for this utility relocation will take place over two to three weeks and will be completed in late November or early December. It is anticipated that a few properties (whose owners have been notified) will be affected by this additional relocation work.

The project is currently on schedule to be bid for construction in September 2017 with construction expected to begin in January 2018. I appreciate your patience and support as the City finalizes the design plans and construction documents for this important project. Should you have any questions or concerns or if you would like to receive project updates via email, please contact me at (919) 996-4074 or David.Kiker@raleighnc.gov. Project information also is available online at www.raleighnc.gov by searching "Simmons Branch".

Sincerely,

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